

# TEAM CHEF'S GUIDE



Annual  
Chef  
Showdown

## Super Chef Showdown

First United Methodist Church  
938 Highway 515  
Blairsville, GA 30512

# Welcome Super Chef Showdown Team Chef!

We are so excited to have you as a Hope House Super Chef Showdown Team Chef!

Thank you for stepping forward to make a difference for everyone supporting our community efforts. This Chef Team Guide has everything you need to get started. Have a question? Contact or text Lorri Burks, Event Coordinator at 706.781.4066 or [uchopehousedirector@gmail.com](mailto:uchopehousedirector@gmail.com) anytime! Text or email is preferred.

## What is a Team Chef?

A Team Chef leads the way to a successful fundraiser. A Team Chef will also act as the key liaison between you, the local event coordinator, and Hope House.

## What is a Team?

A team is a group of people who join together to support you and come to and show support for you at the event. A team can be made up of family, friends, neighbors, classmates, coworkers, school, friends, anyone! The team will encourage others to join the team, motivate them to reach their fundraising goals, and keep them engaged throughout the process.

## How Do I Form a Team?

Forming a team easy! And it's a fun way to raise money for Hope House.

- Step 1.** Register as Chef online at [www.hopehouse-unioncounty.org](http://www.hopehouse-unioncounty.org). Find Super Chef Showdown Event, choose a name for your team, and register. Contact [uchopehousedirector@gmail.com](mailto:uchopehousedirector@gmail.com) for help.
- Step 2.** Set a personal fundraising goal. As a Team Chef, you will want to lead by example. We encourage each person on the Chef's team to set a fundraising goal of at least \$250. As Team Chef, you may want to set a higher goal...We have some great prizes this year!
- Step 3.** Design your own fundraising page online. Tell your personal story and let people know why you are raising funds for Hope House. Post photos if you want!
- Step 4.** Form your team. Make it fun! Recruit family, friends, coworkers, and neighbors in support of helping our community. People want to help; give them that chance. When you find a new team member, ask them to invite their family, friends or coworkers and watch your team grow!
- Step 5.** Ask for materials and Ideas! - Invite your teammates to join you! You'll get all the instructions, inspiration, and materials you need to organize your team and fundraisers.
- Step 6.** Have fun and raise money! More tips & tricks – and a sample email – are included in this packet. The easiest way to raise money is simply to send an email and ask. Your friends and family want to support our cause!
- Step 7.** Give your team an identity! Fun t-shirts, hats, costumes, etc. will make Super Chef Showdown fun! Get creative. We might even offer prizes for the best team “theme”!
- Step 8.** Stay in touch with your team and Hope. Encourage your team regularly — send a weekly email, text, and recognize your team on social media. Make it fun! Keep your team in the loop how your team is progressing toward your fundraising goal!
- Step 9.** Super Chef Showdown. Invite everyone you know to join us on the day of the event! You and your team are making a difference in the mission of Hope House, and we are so very grateful for your support! You can even sell tickets to the event NOW to raise even more money! \$\$

# Registering to Chef a Team!

Registration is fast and easy.

- Step 1.** Go to [www.hopehouse-unioncounty.org](http://www.hopehouse-unioncounty.org)
- Step 2.** Fill out the online registration.
- Step 3.** You are done! It is just that simple!

## What do I do as a Chef? (We are so glad you asked!)

**You should bring enough food to serve approximately 250/300 people  
(We provide 4 ounce serving cups).**

**Food should be prepared ahead of time (hot if necessary) and be ready to serve at 11:30 am.  
Doors open 9 AM to Chefs.**

**All supplies, such as napkins, cups, spoons, table and tablecloths, and HAND SANITIZER will  
be supplied for you! Just bring your specialty delish, and you are ready to roll.**

Need help? Contact or text Hope House Event Chair (Lorri) at  
706.781.4066, or email to [uchopehousedirector@gmail.com](mailto:uchopehousedirector@gmail.com)  
We encourage all of our families, churches, businesses, and friends to create a Team!

### Who should you ask?

Friends, neighbors, coworkers, businesses that you frequent... everyone!

Your email address book and holiday card list is a good place to start, then work from there.

**COME BE A CHEF AT THE  
ANNUAL SUPER CHEF SHOWDOWN!  
AT THE  
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Please invite (and sell tickets) to everyone you know! This fun and delicious fundraiser will not only be lively and entertaining, **THE TICKET AMOUNT YOU SELL WILL COUNT AS VOTES IN THE EVENT! GET A HEAD START ON THE COMPETITION!**

# Setting Your Fundraising Goal

Each and every dollar raised by Super Chef Showdown provides assistance with the basic necessities of life to Union County residents, transients, and homeless population who are in critical need. Funding is provided by individuals and participating churches. This means every dollar you and your team raise during any of our event will bring us one step closer to assisting lodging, prescriptions, heating assistance, gasoline, medical treatments, transportation and utility bills, so set the bar high!

We encourage each of your team member to raise at least \$250. This can be an easy goal if you follow the fundraising tips provided here. If you really want to challenge your team, set the fundraising goal even higher! Remember, there are great prizes given away the day of Super Chef Showdown..all your fundraising dollars are "votes" for your team's people choice awards. Prizes are given to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes for Judges Choice AND for 1st 2nd and 3rd People Choice Awards!

## Join the Hope House "GRAND" Status!

We will be recognizing extraordinary fundraising achievements through our [HopeHouse GRAND Club](#).

**Individuals** who raise \$1,000 or more toward this year's Super Chef Showdown will be awarded a "grand" prize, and will receive special recognition at the Event Day!

We are so glad you are ready to join the [HopeHouse Super Chef Showdown "GRAND" Club](#) Your first step is to set your fundraising goal to \$1,000 or more. Then start contacting families, friends, neighbors, and coworkers to join your team. Each member of your team can easily raise \$250 in just a few days by following these easy tips & tricks!

## Raise \$250 in 10 Days!

DAY		
1	Sponsor yourself for \$25	\$25
2	Ask a friend for \$25	\$50
3	Ask your supervisor for \$25	\$75
4	Ask your spouse for \$25	\$100
5	Ask your neighbor for \$25	\$125
6	Ask your coworker for \$25	\$150
7	Ask a family member for \$25	\$175
8	Ask a local store owner for \$25	\$200
9	Ask another friend for \$25	\$225
10	Ask another family member for \$25	\$250

The easiest way to raise money quickly is to host several fundraisers. Locals people love to support, take out lunches, softball tournament, dances, donkey ballgames, car washes, bake sales, donuts etc. We will help you plan your event! Just let us know!

## Sample Email / Letter

Dear Friends and Family,

We're so excited to be starting a team for our Chef to celebrate the ongoing success for the 11th ANNUAL HOPE HOUSE SUPER CHEF SHOWDOWN IN 2023!

We're cooking up specials to raise funds for our local charity event that helps so many. Our goal is to raise \$\_\_\_\_\_ as soon as possible. Please join us in making a gift at [www.hopehouse-unioncounty.org](http://www.hopehouse-unioncounty.org) OR by attending the Event on March \_\_, 20\_\_.

As you know, in this rural area, there are a lot of needs and services that need to be provided. We can help, as a society, to make an huge impact while serving the mission of Hope House. This organization is volunteer driven , so the very heart of Hope House rests on the daily work provided by those that want to help, serve and be a positive influence for our little hometown. No child or adult should experience the pain of feeling alone, and out of HOPE. We want to lift lives with healing HOPE!

**With support from friends and family like you, we're getting closer to better results and caring for others.**

This is why I am asking you to support our team, [Your Team Name], by helping us at the Super Chef Showdown at First United Methodist Church, on March \_\_, 20\_\_. Our team goal is to raise [insert goal here] for the fundraiser.

Please consider donating to this important cause online at [www.hopehouse-unioncounty.org](http://www.hopehouse-unioncounty.org) Otherwise, you can mail me a check, made payable to Hope House at [insert your address here].

Remember, no donation is too small or too large. Every little bit gets us one step closer to extending a helping hand.

Thank you in advance for your support. I believe that with friends, relatives and colleagues like you, a community that reaches out to others is truly in sight.

With endless gratitude,

[Your Name]

P.S. - Personal Notes

# Recruiting Team Members

Here are a few easy ways to build your team!

- **Ask everyone you know to join your team!** Talk to friends, family, coworkers and neighbors. Ask your team members to invite their friends, family and coworkers. You can keep building your team until the day of the event. Remember, the more people on your team, the more funds raised for Super Chef Showdown!
- **“Each One Reach One”!** Have each member of your team recruit one new member and your team will double. Watch your team keep growing and growing!
- **Talk about Your Team and the Super Chef Showdown!** Share your enthusiasm about your specialty dish with everyone you meet. You never know who will want to join the team!
- **Talk to your employer.** Companies are always looking for team building activities and ways to give back to the community. Participating in Super Chef Showdown makes team building fun and can be great publicity.
- **Advertise.** Many neighborhoods have a message board, blog, or community newsletter, providing you with free or low-cost advertising opportunities to help you assemble your team. Or contact . Make sure you provide some background information on both Hope House and Super Chef Showdown. Contact North GA News for a press release.
- **Make it fun!** The more fun your team is having the more people will want to join.

**Host a Team Kickoff Party. Host a neighborhood party or a lunchtime gathering at work. Invite your team and anyone who might want to join your team!**

## Once you've started building your team:

- **Support** them with copies of the sample email/letter and fundraising tips. Explain how email is the fastest and easiest way to raise funds.
- **Communicate** through weekly emails, texts, or phone calls. Keep them posted on progress towards team goals. Relay success, tips & tricks from other team members.
- **Encourage** your team. Praise their efforts and celebrate their accomplishments. Let them know their work is truly appreciated and remind them how their hard work will help everyone in Union County.
- **Manage** the donation process. Make sure to remind your team members that any donations not received online need to be turned in to Hope House each month until the event.



# Have Fun Reaching Your TEAM GOALS!

Hope House Super Chef Showdown is a "team" activity. Teams work best when team members are engaged, appreciated and having fun. As team chef, make the fundraising **FUN** for your team! It can be a team of 1 - 100!

## Here are a few ways that you can keep the FUN in fundraising...

- **Set achievable goals for you and your team.** Set a goal that you can reach and challenge your team to reach it. Goals could be as simple as send an email each day this week. Praise your team for their efforts.
- **Forge a Strong Team Identity.** Build your team spirit with matching hats, T-shirts or a team name that unites you together and reflects your team's personality. See the next section for more ideas.
- **Arrange a friendly competition among team members and other teams!** Tap into the competitive spirit. Devise ongoing challenges such as first team member to reach \$100 in donations or first to recruit three new team members. Recognize the winners in your team emails! Perhaps reward them with a t-shirt, hat, or other small token. Come up with a cheer that tells who you are and what you challenge. Use your team name or business in the chant to "show your stuff"!
- **Make it a social event.** Consider organizing team get togethers, and make sure to keep the atmosphere light-hearted and social. Use the opportunity to share fundraising tips and recognize outstanding team members.
- **Don't be afraid to be a little silly.** Hope House is a serious organization, but that doesn't mean we can't have fun! Whether it's crazy hats or costumes for the day of the event, a fun team name, or off-the-wall prizes for inter-team challenges, if you keep people smiling, you'll keep them engaged and motivated.
- **Each week, set a fundraising goal for yourself and your team! See who can beat it!**



## Other Fundraising Tips

- **Set a good example.** You should be your own first sponsor. Encourage your team members to do the same.
- **It never hurts to ask!** Enthusiasm and commitment are contagious. If you keep asking for help, people will respond.
- **Start an email campaign.** Send your message to your family, friends, coworkers and everyone you know and ask them to forward your email to people they know. Remember to tell your HOPE HOUSE story!
- **Ask your supporters to forward your email.** Have the grandparents, aunts/uncles, siblings, etc. in your family forward your email request. They can add on a simple comment and send to everyone on their list, such as "My family is raising funds for Hope House and their mission. Would you consider supporting our efforts? See the details below."
- **Sell \$1 donation cards at businesses.** Hope House will provide you with a number of 4 x 6 donation cards that you can take to businesses, and ask them to "sell" these for a \$1 donation. The person buying it can write their name on it, and then the business tapes the card on the wall.
- **Ask for donations instead of gifts.** Have a birthday, holiday, or special occasion coming up? Let people know you'd prefer a donation to Hope House rather than a gift.
- **Think outside the box.** Instead of just asking for donations, hold personal fundraising events. Host a bake sale, car wash, yard sale, or other event in your neighborhood or school to enhance your team's fundraising. For more ideas check out the included page entitled "Fundraising Ideas A-Z"
- **SELL EVENT TICKETS!** You can sell event tickets to the Super Chef Showdown and the money will go into your "vote" bucket! This is a quick and easy way to earn fast cash. Each team will get one complimentary Chef ticket. Everyone else will need to purchase them. They can also be bought at the door of the event, but no credit will be given to the teams.
- **Promote Super Chef Showdown on all your electronic messaging.** Add a "Proud Chef of the 11th Annual Super Chef Showdown" signoff to your emails. Share fundraising appeals and updates using social media.
- **Enlist your employer's help.** There are all kinds of ways that employers can help you recruit and reward coworkers without it costing the company any money. Top fundraisers can be awarded a premium parking spot for a week, or a special casual day. We find that businesses are excited to support a good cause!
- **Take advantage of corporate matching gift programs.** See if your employer has a matching gift program. Encourage team members to do the same. This is an easy way to potentially double your fundraising total!
- **Turn a luxury into a donation.** For a week or a month, divert the money that you would have spent on a movie, manicure, or dinner out to Hope House. Encourage your team to do the same.
- **Recruit your kids!** Ask your children to do a spare change drive, a lemonade stand, or special challenge at their school.



### IDEAS FOR FUN FOODS!

Don't let the dish you would like to make, make you anything but HAPPY! It can be anything at all. In the past, we have had:  
Soups Stews Grilled Veggies Desserts, Pastas, Nachos, Dips, Candies, Fresh Fruits, Meats, Breads, ...all kinds of things! We look forward to seeing what you will prepare!



# Creating a Team Identity

Nothing motivates a team like team spirit!

Help your team members bond by creating a team identity. Customize a Super Chef Showdown T-Shirt by dedicating them to a specific group, church, or business. Wear zany hats or crazy outfits. Wear matching shorts. Get customized baseball caps. Make signs, flags, banners, or a team mascot.

**Forge a team identity that matches you and your team's personality,  
AND HAVE FUN WITH IT!**

**FUNDRAISER WATCHOUTS** – With any fundraiser, you always have to be careful to do it in such a way that you do not violate fundraising guidelines (event, HOPE HOUSE, or our county), it is not negative publicity and/or does not offend anyone. Certain fundraisers can sometimes be misunderstood by members of the community. Or, certain fundraisers are not truly consistent with non-profit guidelines. There are some steps you can take to make sure that fundraisers do not end up as a negative thing in people's minds or for your event and/or the Hope House:

\* Pre-approve your Fundraiser and Follow Fundraising guidelines – Hope House is a non-profit – make sure that you are following fundraising guidelines – the best way to do this is to work with your local staff and committee to ensure that you are in Compliance and that they understand and support what you are doing.

**THIS IS A BIG DEAL!** Please make sure that you continue to support the Hope House by doing this:

1. Communicate what is happening – With any fundraiser, especially one that might be more public, communicate via flyers, a newspaper ad, thru your local government, thru local businesses etc. that it is happening. This will make sure that people are not surprised.
2. Know your audience - Give them a good deal, and make it fun for them.
3. Finally – NEVER VIOLATE THE SPIRIT OF HOPE HOUSE– If you are doing something in the right spirit, it probably makes it less likely that there will be a problem.

## Hope House Mission

### Community helping community

*I Timothy 4:10 “For to this end we toil and struggle, because we have our hope set on the living God, who is the savior of all people..”*

Hope House, a faith-based organization, provides assistance with the basic necessities of life to Union County, Georgia residents, transients, and homeless population who are in critical need. Funding is provided by individuals and participating churches. It is our goal that Hope House becomes the PRIMARY source of help for those in our county.

*....Lifting Lives With Hope....*

# “FUN” FUNDRAISING IDEAS A-Z

**(Just some thoughts...feel free to be creative!)**

**A: Ask** everyone you meet: Even if you have sent out letters, be sure to carry a sponsor/donation form with you so that when you talk to people about Hope House, you can ask them to donate right then. Make sure the top few donations on the form are significant; other people are apt to follow suit. Conversely, if you start with a \$2 contribution, others may follow with \$2. Don't prejudge whether people will give--just ask!

**B: Bake Sale:** Host a bake sale at work or a busy place

**Ball Dance** : Host a Ball to raise money... Sell tix to everyone and everyone, get a band and give it a creative theme – such as Texas Tuxes (tux jacket and jeans), Prom Gowns, Bridesmaids gowns, and Crazy Tuxes (Tux top and weird pants and/or weird shirts)...

**BBQ Lunches:** Prepare and sell bbq lunches

**C: Cake Walk:** (Great to do onsite.) Walkers purchase tickets for the opportunity to participate in the cake walk. Numbers are placed around the track and, when the music stops, participants run to the nearest number. The emcee calls out a number; the individual closest to that number wins a cake.

**Challenges:** Challenge another team to raise more money than yours. Some radio stations may put your challenge on the radio.

**D: Dress Down Days:** Dress down at work for a donation.

**Dinners** – Pork Dinners, Pig Roasts, Spaghetti dinners, whatever you want to do... Setup a dinner at a local hall or restaurant, get as much food donated as possible, and get the word out... Team after team raises hundreds or even thousands of dollars this way!

**E: E-mail** – Send an e-mail to your address book (personal and/or corporate) about why you are involved and how they can help (donate, get involved, etc.)... There are countless stories of volunteers who have raised thousands of dollars with this method, too! E-mail your friends and associates, asking them for donations.

**Envelopes at Restaurant Tables:** Teams generate donations by placing a Hope House envelope at every table, stating "Please Support Our Mission & the Hope House." Waitresses check envelopes after each seating.

**F: Farmer's Market & Face Painting:** Set up a small area inside the busy Farmer's Market and face paint for a donation.

**Fishing Tournament** – Have people donate a set amount, and hold a fishing tournament – Whoever catches the most fish wins a great prize, and the money raised goes to your Chef team!

**G: Garage Sale:** Work individually or as a team and hold a group garage sale where all the money goes to the Hope House... It is a great way to raise money, and for people to get rid of things they don't need!!!

**Golf Tournament** – Everyone loves a Golf Tournament!

**H: Horseshoe Tournament** – Host a horseshoe tournament to raise money! Charge an entry donation for participation and get prizes donated!

**I: Ice Cream Socials:** Plan one at your place of work, at Meeks park, or for friends, asking for a donation to attend. Sell ice cream for dessert, have games, and social activities...

**J: Just Sell Event Tickets! You know everyone will come, sell them tickets and that is instant money for your team!**

**L: Lawn Service:** Mow lawns for donations

**M: Matching Gifts:** If your company has a matching gift program, that's an effective way to double your fundraising efforts. Be sure to check with the human resources department to obtain matching gift forms

**Motorcycle Ride** — Organize a motorcycle ride to raise money!

**N: NASCAR Raffle:** Gather a variety of NASCAR promotional items, especially if you can get an autographed item from a driver, and hold a raffle

**O: Odd Jobs:** Ask to do odd jobs for neighbors for a donation.

**P: Pancake Breakfast:** Hold a pancake breakfast at work, or at a church or social hall

**Personal Bake Sale:** Bake some extra-delicious, extra-gooey brownies and sell them for \$1 apiece (large slices). Bake a different dessert each week for your coworkers

**Pot Luck Lunches:** Designate every Wednesday as Hope House Pot Luck Day, where team members take turns bringing food to offer to employees at a set prices or donation.

**R: Raffles:** Raffles can accommodate many items.

**Ribbons on Mailboxes** – A team can make yellow and black ribbons to go on mailboxes and sell them so everyone can show their community support for Hope House!

**S: Softball Tournament** – Organize an all day softball tournament, where up to 8 teams play in a single elimination tournament

**Spaghetti Dinner:** Sell the noodles and let people taste and judge different sauces.

**T: Ten For Ten** - Ask one person each day for 10 days for \$10 . . . \$100

**Thirty Friends with Dollars!** – Here’s an easy way to raise \$ from 30 Friends... FORM ON BACK OF PAGE.

**Turkey Shoot**– Hold a turkey shoot and give away prizes

**V: Vacation Day Drawing:** Get your company to agree to let you raffle a day off with pay, with the money raised going to the Chef team.

**Vendors:** Solicit your vendors for items to raffle or auction off.

**W: Wait Tables:** Work with a restaurant that will let you designate a particular night to benefit your Chef team. Team members serve as waiters, collecting tips and a percentage of the evening's proceeds.

**Y: Yardsale**

Sorry we couldn't think of anything for K, Q, U, X and Z!

- **Bullet Points for Event Day!**

- **Doors Open at 9am for Chefs and helpers**
- **11 am - Chef and team members inside will group together and give thanks/prayer.**
- **11:15 am - Everyone except the Chef will leave the building.**
- **11:30 am - The DOORS OPEN!**
- **12 pm - Door Prize give aways**
- **12:30 pm - Door Prize give aways**
- **1 pm - Door Prize give aways**
- **1:15 pm - Hope House accounting team will begin collecting "votes" for each team**
- **1:30 pm - Last Door Prize give aways & Silent Auction will announce winners.**
- **Winners will be announced and recognized. Prizes will be given out.**

**Door prize give aways must be present to win**

Thirty Friends with dollars! - Here's an easy way to raise \$ from 30 Friends...

Let my dollar start you off .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

A dollar won't break me ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

A dollar isn't much ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

I guess I can spare a dollar ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Well, since it's you ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Dollars will reach the goal ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

What's a dollar between friends? ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

It's for a good cause ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Glad to help, here's five ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

I want to help ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

My good deed for today ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Count on me ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Sure, I'll give a dollar or ten ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

If it will help ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

I just can't say no to a friend ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

A dollar from me to you ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Don't leave me out ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Me too! ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Here you go, I'll give twenty ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Hope House helped someone I know... \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

I wish I could give more ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

I can spare more than a dollar ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Ten dollars isn't too much ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Maybe I can do more next time ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Why not, it may help someone I know ...\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Five dollars will help reach your goal \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

What are friends for? ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Don't leave without my donation ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Better now than later..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

My donation can help people too! ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank You!**